

Political Advertising Disclaimers

3. Independent Expenditure Ads on Ballot Measures (except ads by candidates and political party committees)

Communication	Disclaimer and Manner of Display
<p>Print ads designed to be individually distributed including mailings, door hangers, flyers, faxes, posters, newspaper and magazine ads, and oversized campaign buttons and bumper stickers (buttons 10 inches in diameter or larger and stickers 60 square inches or larger)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 410 or 461) • “Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$50,000 or more]” each listed on a separate horizontal line, centered horizontally, in descending order, beginning with the largest contributor and may not appear in all capital letters <i>(not applicable to non-recipient committees)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Newspaper, magazine or other print advertisements that are 20 square inches or less must only disclose the single top contributor of \$50,000 or more • “Funding Details at www.fppc.ca.gov” must be shown immediately below the top three donor text for state primarily formed ballot measure and candidate committees that raise \$1,000,000 (see Section 84223) • Disclaimer Format: Text must be in Arial equivalent font, at least 10-point in size, in a contrasting color, and located in a printed or drawn box with a solid white background at the bottom of at least one page and set apart from other printed matter
<p>Print ads larger than those designed to be individually distributed, such as billboards and signs (including yard signs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Paid for by [committee’s name]” (on file with Form 410 or 461) • “Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$50,000 or more]” Top contributors must be displayed from largest to smallest appearing either on: (1) separate horizontal lines, centered horizontally or (2) one line separated by commas <i>(not applicable to non-recipient committees)</i> • Disclaimer Format: Text must be in Arial equivalent font. The font must be a height of at least five percent of the advertisement, meaning that each line must be at least five percent of the advertisement, on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer

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Radio ads, telephone calls and audio only electronic media ads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 410 or 461) • "Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$50,000 or more]" in descending order, beginning with the largest contributor (<i>not applicable to non-recipient committees</i>) • Disclaimer Format: Must be spoken clearly for at least three seconds at the beginning or end of the ad or call, in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Radio and prerecorded phone ads must disclose only the top two contributors of \$50,000 or more unless the ad lasts 15 seconds or less or the statement would last more than eight seconds, in which case only the top contributor must be disclosed
Television and video ads (including those disseminated over the Internet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Paid for by [committee's name]" (on file with Form 410 or 461) • "Committee major funding from [names of top three donors of \$50,000 or more]" in descending order, beginning with the largest contributor (<i>not applicable to non-recipient committees</i>) • Disclaimer Format: Text must be in a contrasting color and in Arial equivalent type and must be underlined unless specified below <p>The size for the smallest letters in the disclaimer must be four percent of the height of the display screen unless this causes the name of any top contributors to exceed the width of the screen or causes the disclaimers to exceed one-third of the display screen, the type size of the name of the top contributor shall be reduced until the name fits on the width of the screen or the entire disclaimer fits within one-third of the display screen, but in no case shall the type size be smaller than 2.5 percent of the height of the screen</p> <p>Disclaimer must appear on a solid black background on the entire bottom third of the display screen, or bottom one-fourth of the screen if the committee has no top contributors</p> <p>Disclaimer must be displayed at the beginning or end of the ad for at least five seconds of a broadcast of 30 seconds or less or for at least 10 seconds of a broadcast longer than 30 seconds</p> <p>Each top contributor must be disclosed on a separate horizontal line, centered horizontally, is not required to be underlined and may not appear in all capital letters</p>

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Electronic media ads not covered below (except video ads, see above), and email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Who funded this ad?” text as a hyperlink in a contrasting color and font size that is easily readable by the average viewer* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must hyperlink to a website containing the “Paid for by” and “Committee major funding from” disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font ○ “Committee major funding from” may not appear in all capital letters ○ Must remain online until 30 days after the date of election
Social media ads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Paid for by” and “Committee major funding from” disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font on the committee’s profile, landing page, or similar location and is not required to include disclaimers on each individual post or comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Committee major funding from” may not appear in all capital letters ○ Not required when the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time unless the social media account was created only for the purpose of advertisements under the Act
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Paid for by” and “Committee major funding from” disclaimers in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Committee major funding from” may not appear in all capital letters
Electronic media ads that are audio only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See disclaimer requirements for radio ads above <p>Note: The “Committee major funding from” disclaimer requirement on this page is not applicable to non-recipient committees.</p> <p><small>*This text is not required if including it is impracticable. In such circumstances the ad need only include a hyperlink to a website containing the website disclaimers.</small></p>

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<p>Paid Spokesperson: Payment of \$5,000 or more to an individual for individual's appearance in a ballot measure ad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the other disclaimers, include: "<i>(spokesperson's name)</i> is being paid by this campaign or its donors" • Printed, televised or video ad: shown continuously in highly visible font except when the disclosure for television and video ads above is being shown • Radio broadcast or phone message: spoken in clearly audible format
<p>Paid Spokesperson: Payment of <i>any amount</i> to an individual portraying a member of a licensed or certified occupation (e.g., nurse, firefighter, lawyer)</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> If the paid individual is actually a member of the occupation portrayed, the committee may omit this disclaimer. The committee must maintain documentation of the individual's license or certification.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the disclaimer above, include: "Persons portraying members of an occupation in this advertisement are compensated spokespersons not necessarily employed in those occupations" • Printed or televised ad: shown continuously in highly visible font • Radio broadcast or phone message: spoken in clearly audible format

The information on this chart does not carry the force of law. If there are any discrepancies between the chart and the Act or its corresponding regulations and opinions, the Act and its regulations and opinions will control.

References: [Government Code Sections](#): 84504, 84504.1, 84504.2, 84504.3, 84511